



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF



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11 MAY 1966

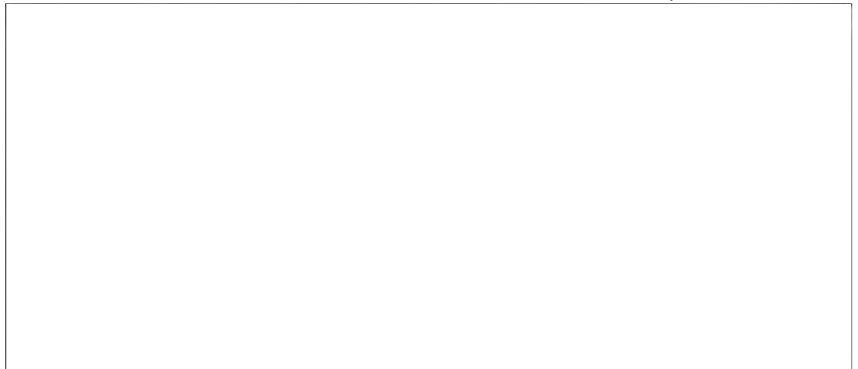
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DAILY BRIEF
11 MAY 1966

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1. Vietnam



2. South Vietnam

Ky today reiterated that the directorate will lead the government until elections for a new legislature are held, probably in mid-1967. His remarks--really impromptu responses to newsmen--were hedged and indirect, indicating that he has not taken the advice of close associates to make crystal clear how he thinks the government will evolve over the next year.

Meanwhile, some prominent Buddhist monks have been visiting provincial capitals, giving antiwar and anti-American speeches in which they urge soldiers to obey Buddhist leaders rather than Americans, and saying that Americans should be benefactors, but not owners, of Vietnam.

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3. Soviet Union

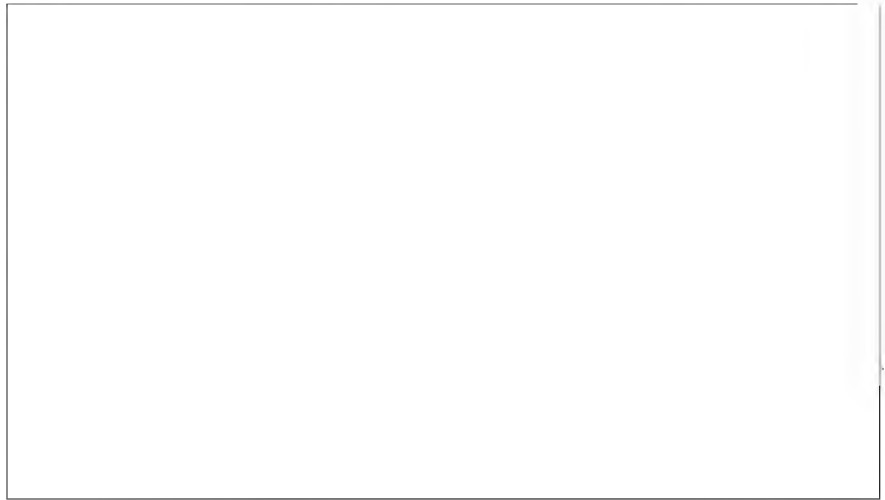
The late April US reconnaissance satellite mission continues to provide us with information on Soviet space and missile systems.



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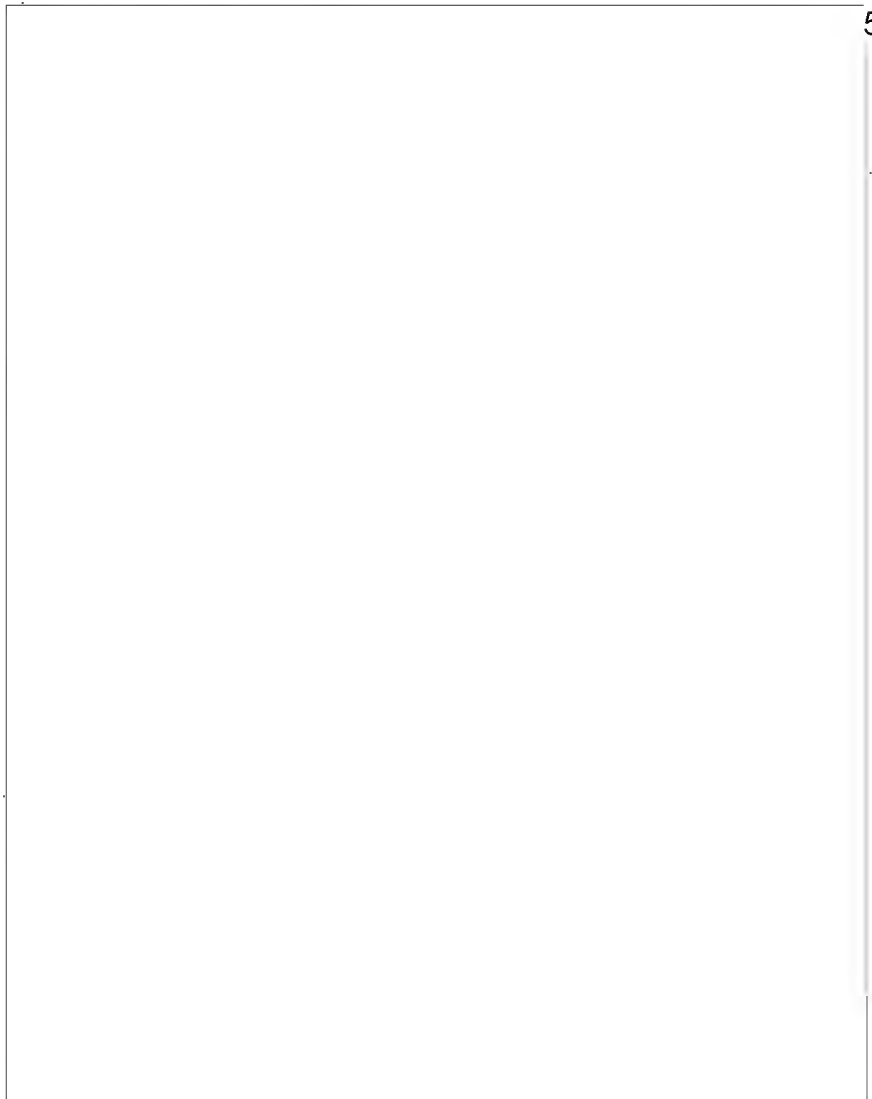
4. Soviet Union

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5. France.

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6. Dominican Republic

As the 1 June elections draw near, there is more word of an agreement for a coalition among Bosch's principal opponents. A negotiator is quoted to the effect that Rafael Bonnelly, third runner in the field, has come to terms with Joaquin Balaguer, presumably to withdraw in Balaguer's favor.

The prospect of this has been bothering Bosch lately, even though he appears confident and has been given a slight edge by many observers. Bosch wants Bonnelly in the race to keep the center-to-right vote divided between Bonnelly and Balaguer.

7. Ecuador

Provisional president Yeroivi's weak government may soon face a new threat and perhaps another period of political turmoil.

Ex-president Velasco Ibarra, now in exile in Argentina, apparently intends to return to Ecuador, possibly on 28 May. This is the anniversary of a 1944 revolution which brought him to power for the second of his four presidential tenures.

Velasco at 73 is still a charismatic demagogue, and Ecuador is alive with rumors about his return.

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8. Laos

The Laotian General Staff, long jealous of the independence and growing power of General Ma, commander of the air force, has finally lowered the boom on him. He has been removed from command and assigned to the staff as deputy chief for operations and intelligence.

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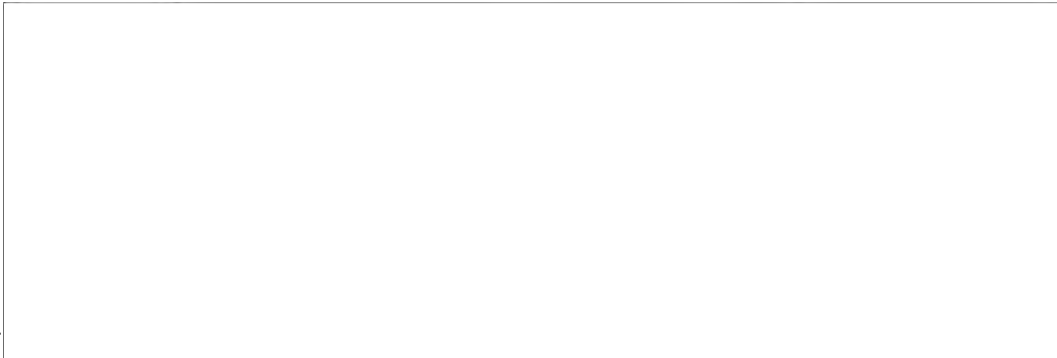
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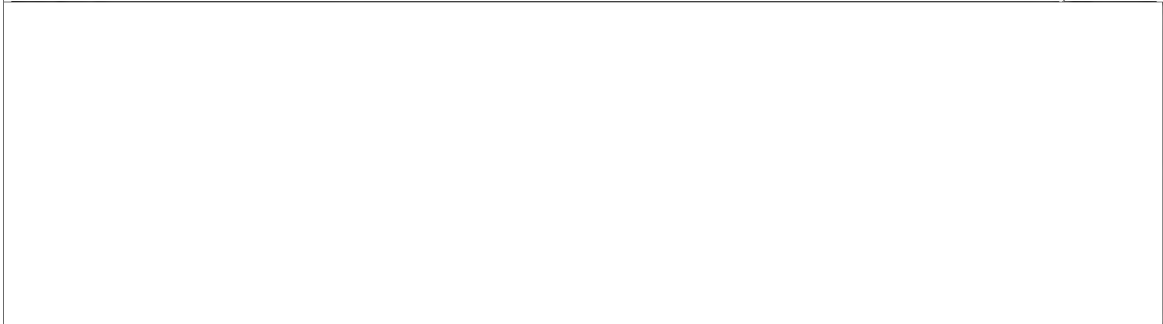
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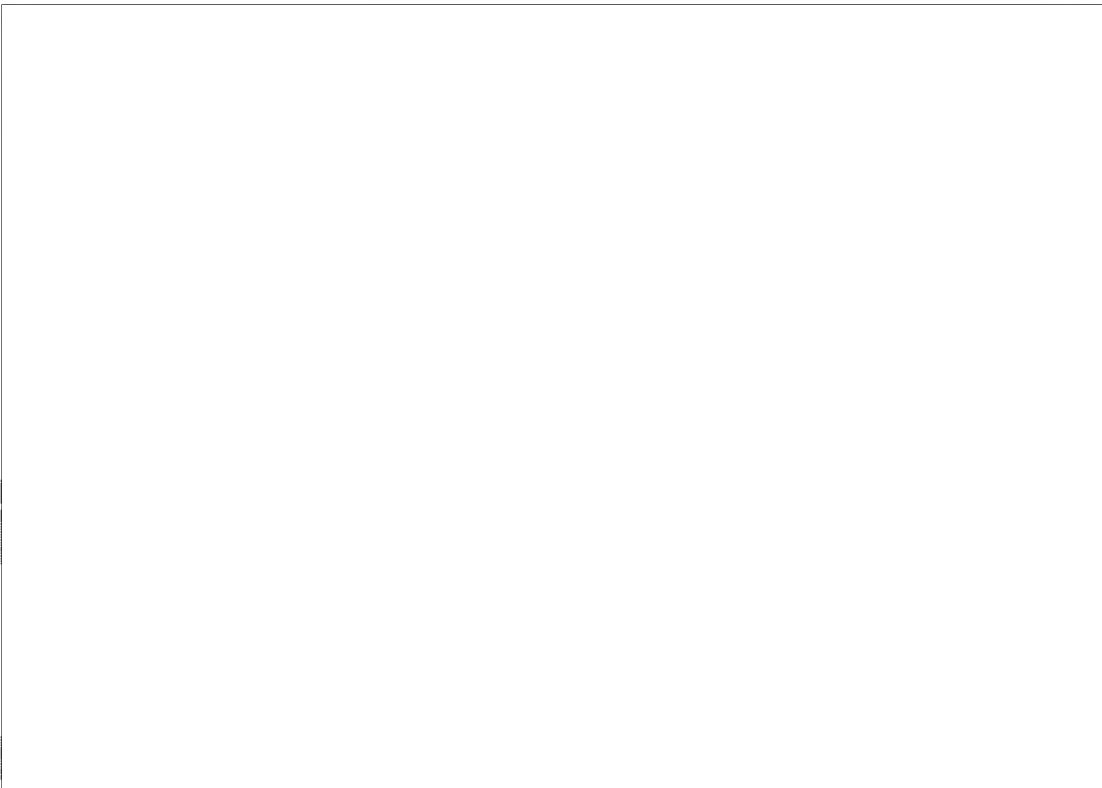
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